

I strongly oppose any further deregulation of media ownership (TV, radio, newspaper, network), and I urge you to vote down any such deregulation. Too few companies already control too many of our media outlets. This had led to a decline in editorial diversity, increase in corporate conflicts of interest, and the neglect of local news and public service that are the supposed obligations of those with a broadcast license. The reporting during the war in Iraq is a recent example of the perils of corporate conflicts of interest. Those who wanted reporting beyond the news _carefully_ selected by the networks had to turn to sources outside the U.S. Secondly, your Commission found that the general public was uninformed about this upcoming FCC decision which would drastically change the media landscape in this country, largely because it was not in the media conglomerates' best interests to have the public learn about the upcoming vote. This should be a sign to you that the rules of media ownership are, if anything, too lax already. In the very least, please note that a vote to further deregulate media ownership would be in direct opposition to your own stated goals: "The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is working to make sure the nation's communications systems are working seamlessly and competitively in your best interest." (from the FCC publication "About the FCC"). This is an issue of huge importance to Americans' lives. Once made, this deregulation would difficult if not impossible to reverse. Please pay attention to public sentiment, rather than to the deep pockets of the corporate interests. Thank you.